

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 DRC-01

DPW-01 /163 W

----- 021650

R 030430Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8647

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMCONSUL CAN THO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 18865

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, IR

SUBJ: ICCS: IRDEL AMBASSADOR'S DISCUSSION WITH PRG'S GEN TUAN

REF: SAIGON 18630

1. ON NOVEMBER 1 IRDEL AMB SADRI OUTLINED FOR EMBOFF SUBSTANCE OF RECENT DISCUSSION HELD WITH PRG GEN TUAN. GEN TUAN HAS INVITED ALL CHIEFS OF ICCS DELEGATIONS TO VISIT LOC NINH ON NOVEMBER 12 AND 13. THE DATE OF VISIT WAS FIRST SET FOR NOVEMBER 5 BUT, BECAUSE AMB SADRI COULDN'T MAKE IT THEN, THE DATE WAS SET BACK. AMB SADRI THANKED GEN TUAN FOR CHANGING THE DATE AND ACCEPTED THE INVITATION.

2. SADRI NOTED TO GEN TUAN THE DIFFICULTIES ICCS FACES IN MAKING VISITS AWAY FROM SAIGON IN VIEW OF THREE MISSING ICCS PA&E EMPLOYEES. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THESE EMPLOYEES WOULD BE SAFELY BACK IN SAIGON PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 12. GEN TUAN RESPONDED
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NOTING THAT THERE WAS NO QTE PROOF UNQTE THAT THE PRG HAD THESE

MEN BUT IF THEY DID HAVE THEM AMB SADRI COULD BE ASSURED THAT THEY WERE BEING TREATED HUMANELY SINCE THE PRG HAD ALWAYS BEEN KIND TO QTE OUR FOREIGN GUESTS UNQTE. SADRI NOTED THAT HE WAS A QTE FOREIGN GUEST UNQTE AND WOULD HOPE FOR HUMANE TREATMENT AT LOC NINH.

3. ON THE MATTER OF ICCS BUDGET TUAN TOLD SADRI THAT IT WAS TOO HIGH AND COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED. SADRI POINTED OUT THAT WHAT HAD BEEN DONE IN THE PAST WAS OUTSIDE HIS PURVIEW; HOWEVER, THE BUDGET AS SUBMITTED TO THE FOUR SIGNATORIES IN JUNE HAD BEEN APPROVED BY ALL INCLUDING THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS AND MUST HAVE REPRESENTED THEIR HONEST ASSESSMENT OF COSTS. SADRI NOTED THAT HE COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY ARBITRARY LIMIT ON THE BUDGET. SUCH AN APPROACH WAS NOT ONLY UNACCEPTABLE BUT UNDIPLOMATIC. HE SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO GO OVER THE IRANIAN BUDGET REQUESTS (PER DIEM, UNIFORMS, ETC. FOR IRANIAN DELEGATION) IN DETAIL WITH GEN TUAN AND IF THE GENERAL THOUGHT ANY ITEM TOO HIGH OR NOT ACCEPTABLE, SADRI WOULD REDUCE THE FIGURE OR DELETE THE ITEM. GEN TUAM SEEMED SURPRISED AT SADRI'S WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH HIM IN THIS MANNER.

4. COMMENT: SADRI'S TACTICS SHOULD PROVE EMBARRASSING TO THE QTE PRG UNQTE. WE BELIEVE HE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESSURE THE PRG IN THIS WAY AND, HOPEFULLY, WILL MAKE IT COSTLY FROM THE STAND POINT OF THEIR PUBLIC IMAGE TO CONTINUE TO USE THE BUDGET ISSUE TO SABOTAGE THE ICCS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SADRI DOES NOT PLAN TO GO PUBLIC ON THIS MATTER UNTIL HE HAS EXHAUSTED THE POSSIBILITIES IN THIS KIND OF DIPLOMACY.
MARTIN

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